

Year 1 Swans History Spring 2

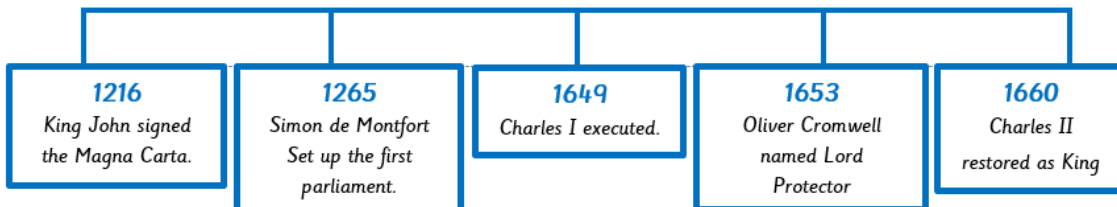
Kings, Queens and Leaders

Key Vocabulary	Definition
baron	An important person who owns land.
civil war	A war between people who live in the same country.
commonwealth	An independent country or community.
coronation	When a king or queen is given the crown.
Lord Protector	A regent in charge of a kingdom during the absence of a sovereign.
Magna Carta	A written promise (charter) that was sealed by King John.
majesty	A royal person.
monarch	A sovereign head of state, especially a king or queen.
parliament	A legislative body of government.
reign	The time that a person is in charge and rules over a country.
royalty	People who are kings or queens, or part of their family.
sceptre	A decorated rod carried by rulers on special occasions.
tax	A compulsory contribution to state revenue.
throne	A special chair for a monarch or other very important person.

Who Makes the Laws in the United Kingdom?

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy which means the monarch shares power with the government. Although our King, HRH King Charles III is officially our head of state, the government actually runs the country from day to day. Our King came to the throne after the death of his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, on 8th September 2022.

Timeline of Events



King Charles III

King Charles III was crowned the current King of England and head of the commonwealth on Saturday 6th May 2023. He is the first-born child of our previous Queen, Queen Elizabeth II who was England's longest reigning monarch. King Charles is the oldest person in history to become king. His eldest son, William, is known as the Prince of Wales. One day, he will be king.



King John I and the Magna Carta

Historians believe that King John taxed the people of England a lot of money in order to build ships. He taxed people so much that they were left with no money to be able to buy food for their families. A group of people, called Barons, decided that something needed to change and they wrote some promises on a special piece of paper, called the Magna Carta, and made King John sign it. King John sealed it with the royal seal and by doing this promised to not tax people too much or put them in prison for no good reason.



The Magna Carta

The Magna Carta means Great Charter. King John was forced to sign it at Runnymede on the 15th of June 1215. It is a list of 63 clauses which the barons hoped would make John rule fairly and according to the law.



Parliament

Parliament is made up of a group of people who are chosen to make decisions about the country. The first Parliament was set up in 1265 by Simon de Montfort after he captured King Henry III.

King Charles I

King Charles I believed that he had been chosen by God to be King and that he should not have to ask Parliament for things that he wanted. He started a civil war in his own country. He was eventually captured and removed as King and